

# THE BLACK WARTER

CHAPTER 7

GUARDIANS OF  
THE GALAXY®

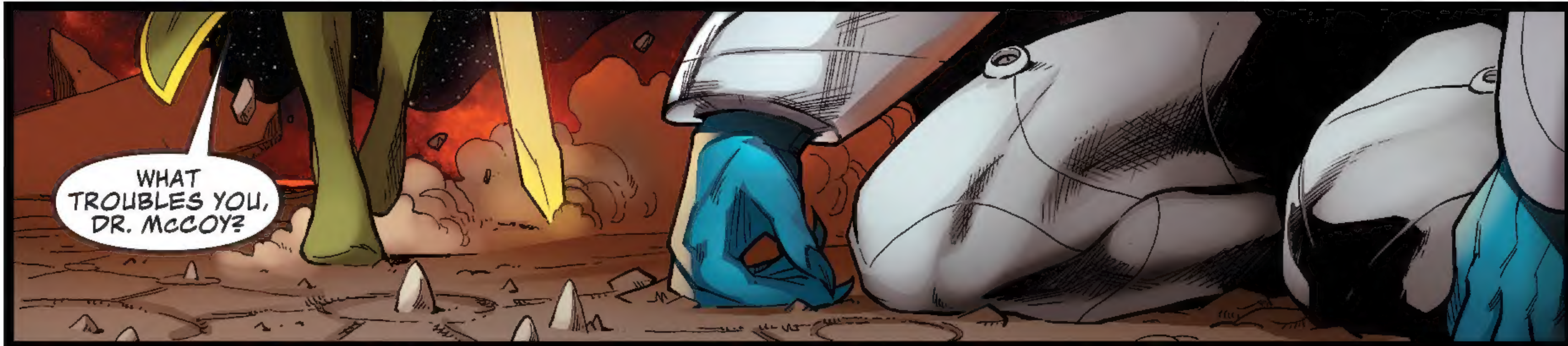
025



MARVEL

BENDIS  
SCHITI  
KEITH

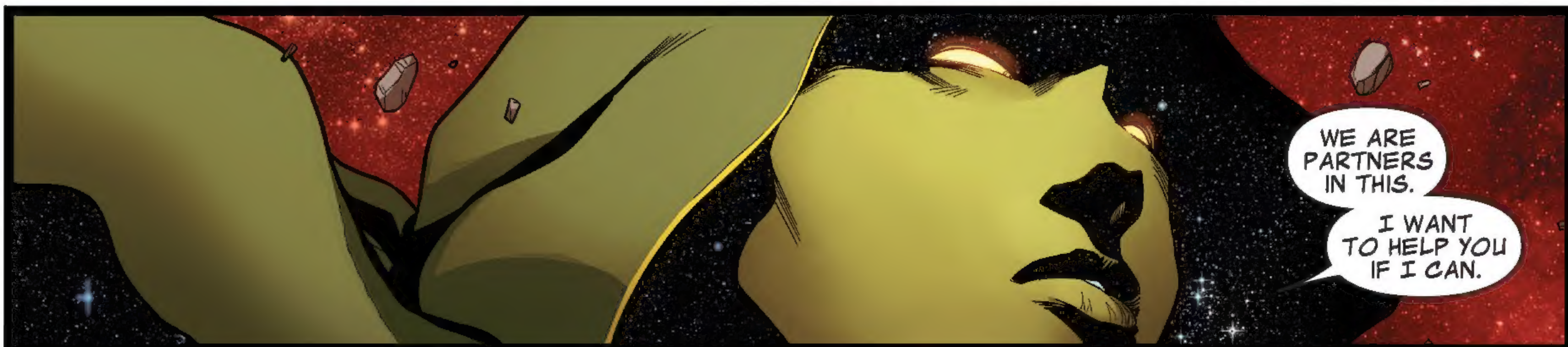




WHAT TROUBLES YOU, DR. MCCOY?



LEAVE ME ALONE, GAMORA.



WE ARE PARTNERS IN THIS.

I WANT TO HELP YOU IF I CAN.

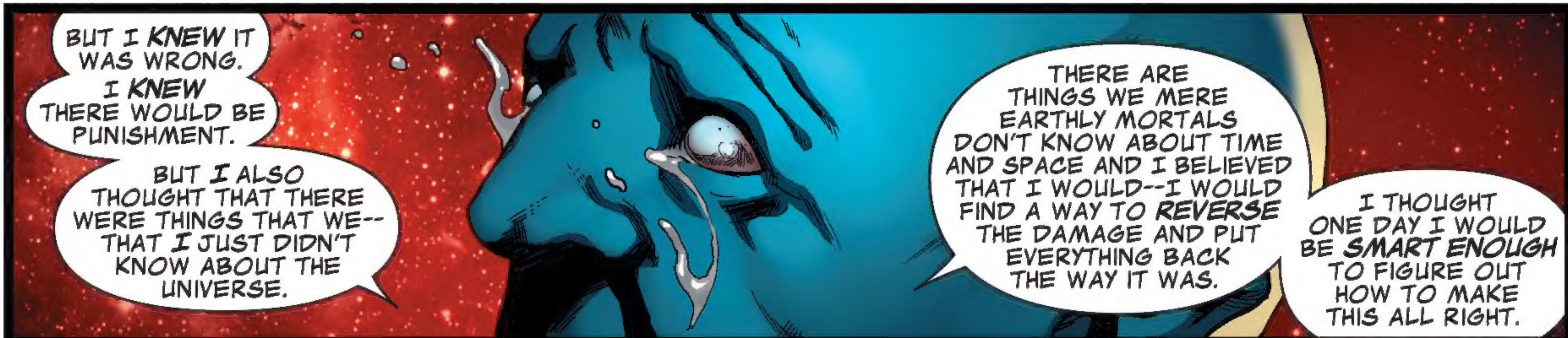


IT'S JUST... I'VE MADE CHOICES--SOME WOULD SAY BOLD CHOICES--IN MY LIFE.

I BROKE THE RULES OF TIME AND SPACE AND BROUGHT MY YOUNGER SELF'S TEAM OF X-MEN HERE TO THE PRESENT. I DID THAT.

YES, I DID SO BECAUSE I WAS CONVINCED IT WAS NECESSARY.

TO SAVE OUR PEOPLE.



BUT I KNEW IT WAS WRONG. I KNEW THERE WOULD BE PUNISHMENT.

BUT I ALSO THOUGHT THAT THERE WERE THINGS THAT WE-- THAT I JUST DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE UNIVERSE.

THERE ARE THINGS WE MERE EARTHLY MORTALS DON'T KNOW ABOUT TIME AND SPACE AND I BELIEVED THAT I WOULD--I WOULD FIND A WAY TO REVERSE THE DAMAGE AND PUT EVERYTHING BACK THE WAY IT WAS.

I THOUGHT ONE DAY I WOULD BE SMART ENOUGH TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO MAKE THIS ALL RIGHT.



BUT NOW, WITH THE COSMIC KNOWLEDGE IN MY HANDS...WITH TOTAL UNDERSTANDING OF TIME AND SPACE...

...I AM NOW FACED WITH THE FACT THAT I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO FIX WHAT I HAVE BROKEN.

I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT.



ARE YOU ABSOLUTELY SURE?







**GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN**

# **THE BLACK VORTEX**

## **CHAPTER 7**

**Previously in *The Black Vortex*...**

Billions of years ago, an ancient race named the Viscardi were gifted an object of immense cosmic power by a Celestial. This artifact, known as the Black Vortex, transformed the user, imbuing them with cosmic energy. However, the power of this object caused the Viscardi to turn on each other, annihilating their own race from within.

When Mister Knife, a.k.a. J'Son, Peter Quill's father, obtained the Black Vortex, Peter and Kitty Pryde stole the artifact and recruited the Guardians of the Galaxy and the X-Men for help. Gamora, the elder Beast, and Angel chose to submit to the Vortex and the three cosmically enhanced heroes took the artifact and left, intending to reshape the universe in their image. But when Ronan the Accuser stole the Vortex from them, they retaliated by assaulting the Kree homeworld, Hala. Fearing total annihilation, Ronan used the Vortex to enhance himself against the Supreme Intelligence's wishes. As Ronan used his new powers to hold off the three enhanced heroes, the elder Beast was horrified to discover that he could not fix the damage he had done to space-time and fled with the other two in tow.

Meanwhile, the Guardians and X-Men escaped Knife's henchmen and were joined by the young Cyclops and his father, Corsair. Receiving multiple distress signals, they split into three groups. Cyclops, Iceman, and Groot stayed behind to delay the Slaughter Lords, but were quickly overpowered and are now prisoners of Mister Knife!

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HALA, HOMEWORLD OF THE KREE.  
THE CROWN JEWEL OF THE KREE EMPIRE.

PLEASE,  
SUPREME  
INTELLIGENCE,  
IF YOU COULD  
JUST HEAR  
ME OUT.

I AM PART  
KREE AND I DO  
BELIEVE THAT I  
HAVE LIVED UP TO  
THE HIGH STANDARDS  
OF THE EMPIRE  
WHILE AT THE  
SAME TIME--

CAPTAIN  
MARVEL,  
THE BLACK  
VORTEX IS  
A CURSE.

IT IS A  
CURSE UPON  
THIS ENTIRE  
GALAXY.

IT WAS  
HIDDEN AWAY  
FOR THOUSANDS  
OF YEARS FOR  
A REASON.

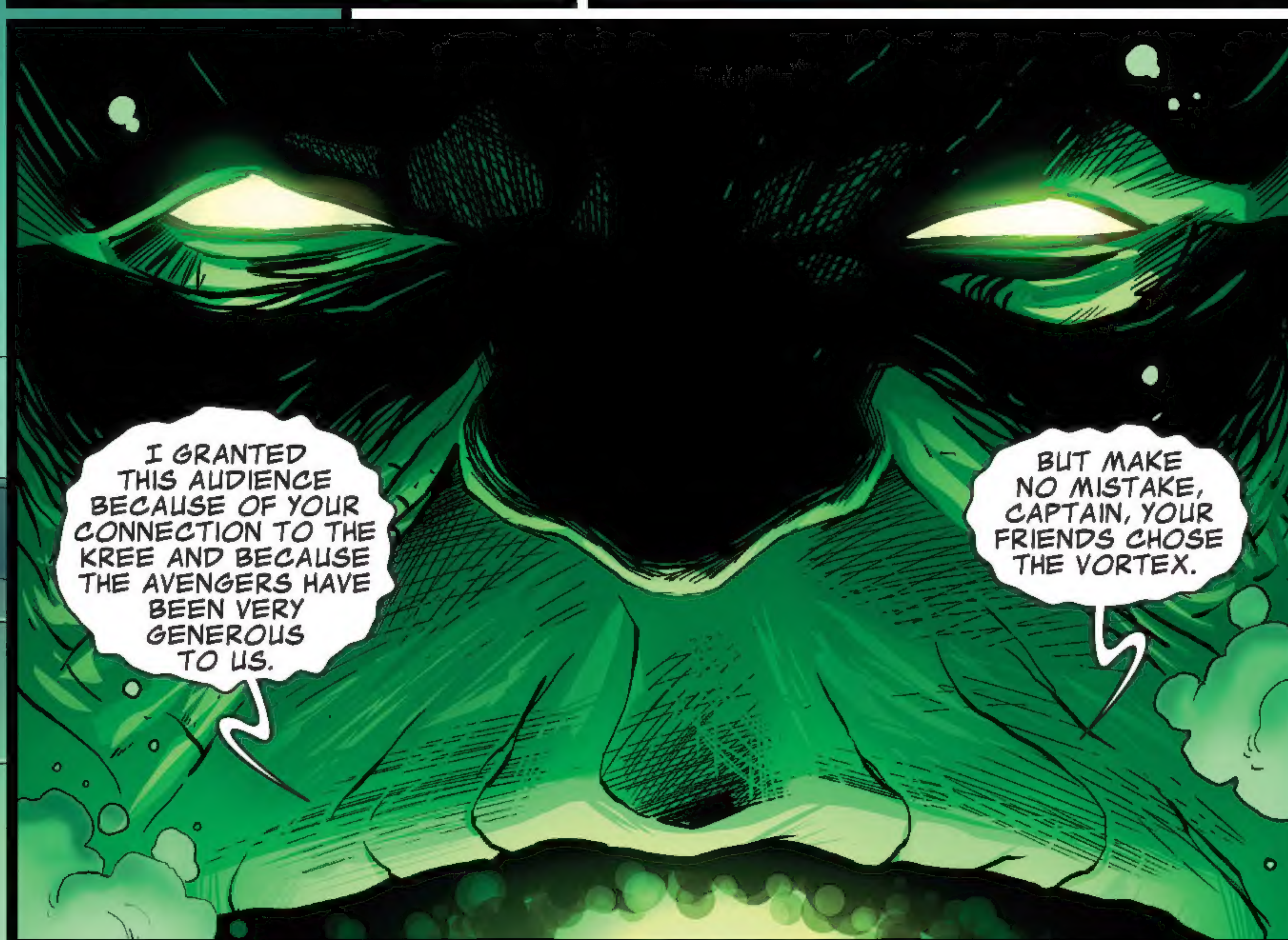
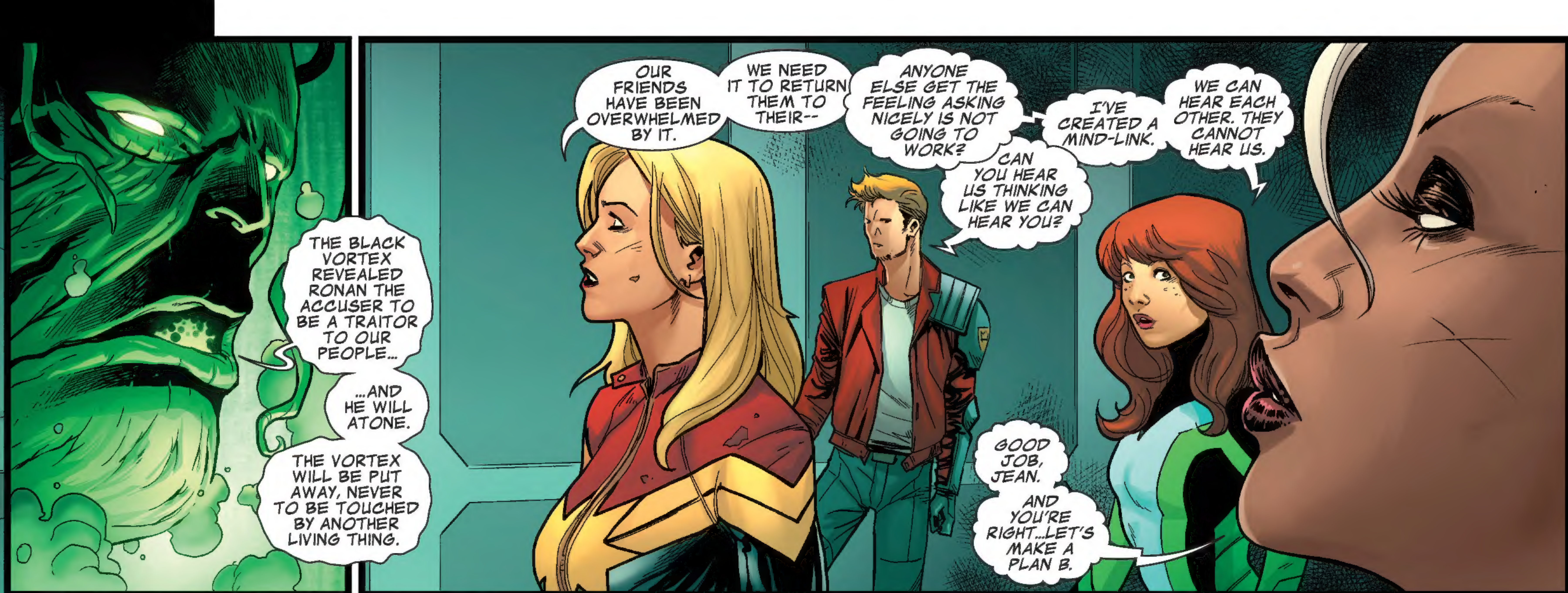
AND NOW  
YOU COME TO  
ME AND ASK ME  
TO SEE THINGS  
FROM YOUR  
POINT OF  
VIEW.

THERE IS  
NO "YOUR  
POINT OF VIEW,"  
THERE ARE ONLY  
THE FACTS AS  
THEY ARE.

EARTHLING  
WARRIORS  
ATTACKED THE  
KREE HOME  
PLANET.

YOU  
SHOULD BE  
MUCH MORE  
CONCERNED ABOUT  
REPERCUSSIONS  
FOR THE PLANET  
EARTH.





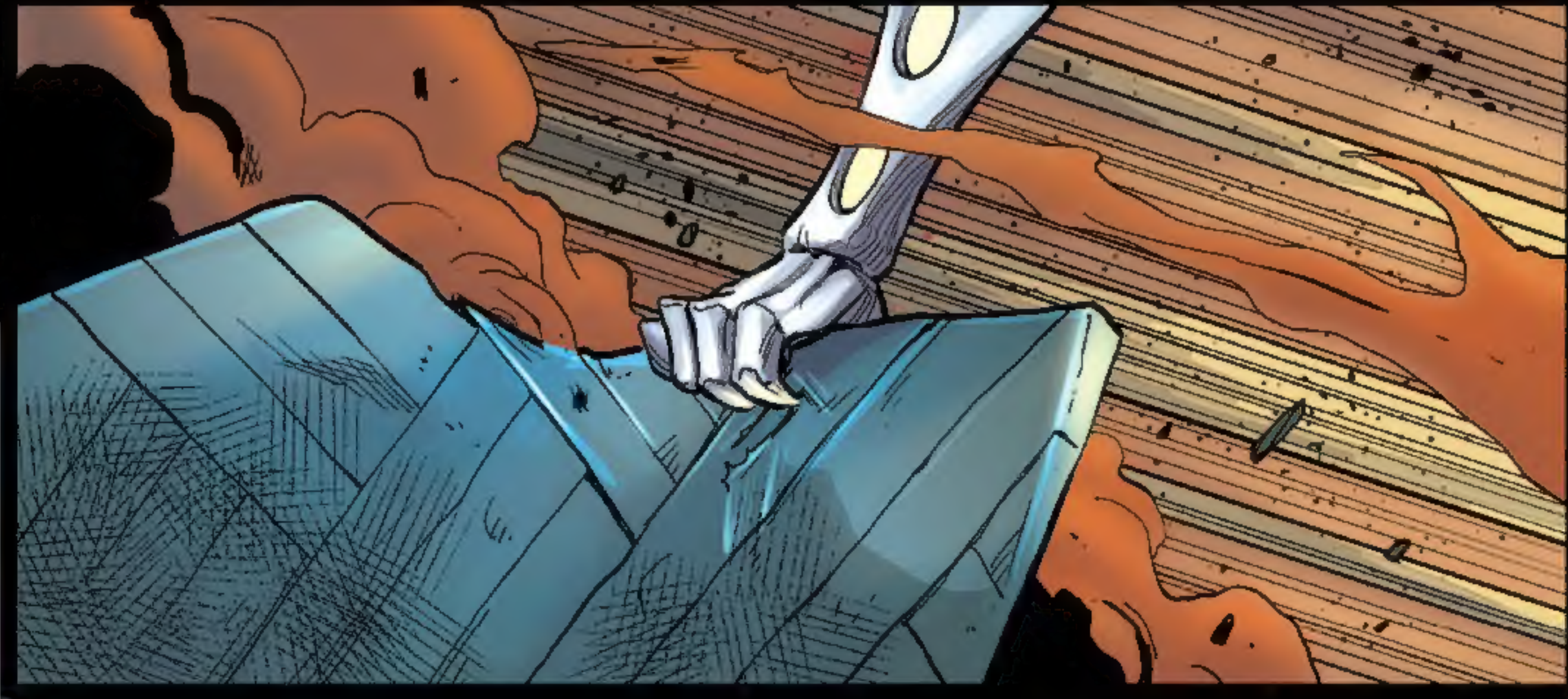
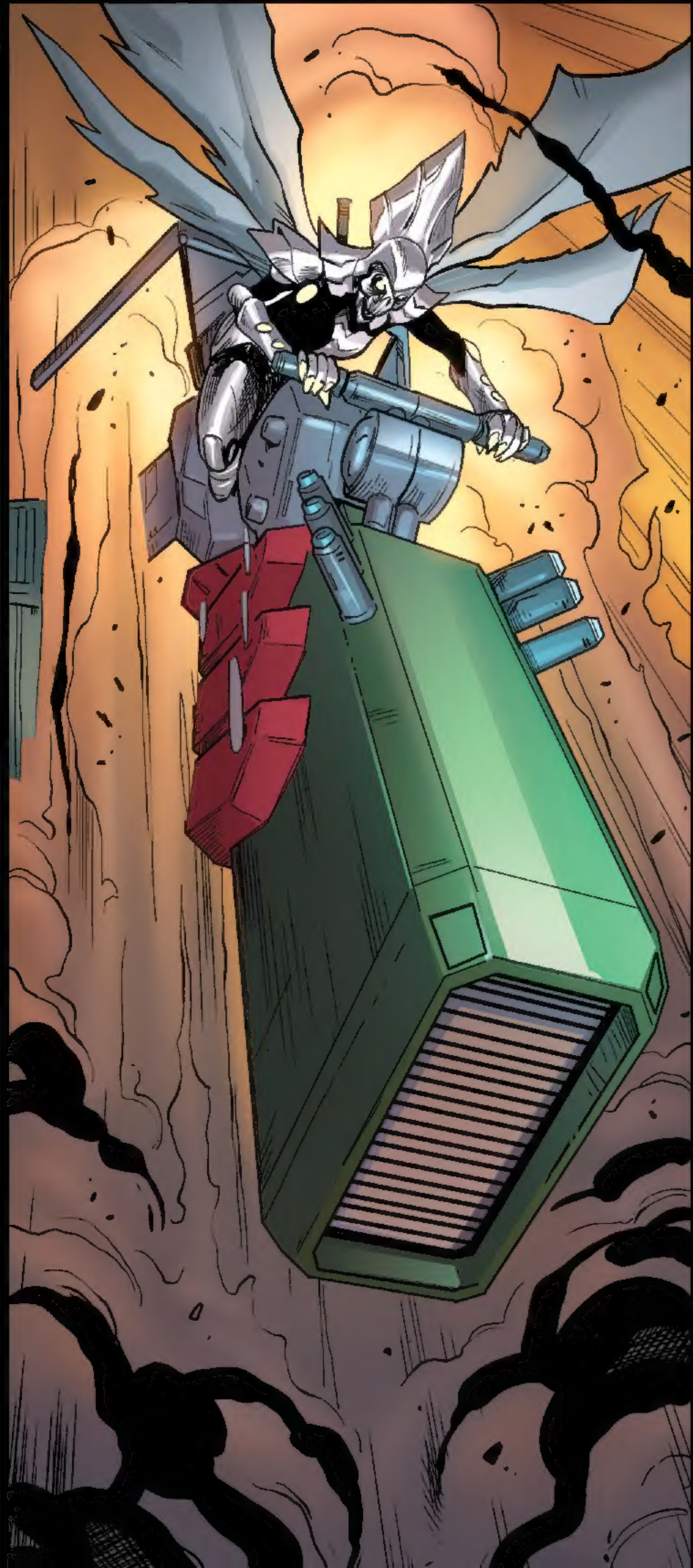
















ACCUSERS!

THE CHILD NOVA HAS THE VORTEX!

THAT IS YOUR OBJECTIVE! NOT THIS BATTLE!

IT OCCURS TO ME NOW THAT WE COULD HAVE COME UP WITH A BETTER GETAWAY PLAN!

REALLY?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS ONE?

(OH DEAR GOD, I'M SOUNDING JUST LIKE SPIDER-MAN.)

WE ARE OUTNUMBERED AND OUTPOWERED AND EVEN IF WE GET OUT OF THIS ROOM WE STILL HAVE AN ENTIRE PLANET TO ESCAPE FROM.

AND?



WE ARE IN DIRE STRAITS!

SHE KNOWS, DRAX. SHE WAS BEING SARCASTIC.

I AM NOT A FAN OF SARCASTIC.

JEAN...IT'S NOW OR NEVER, LADY.

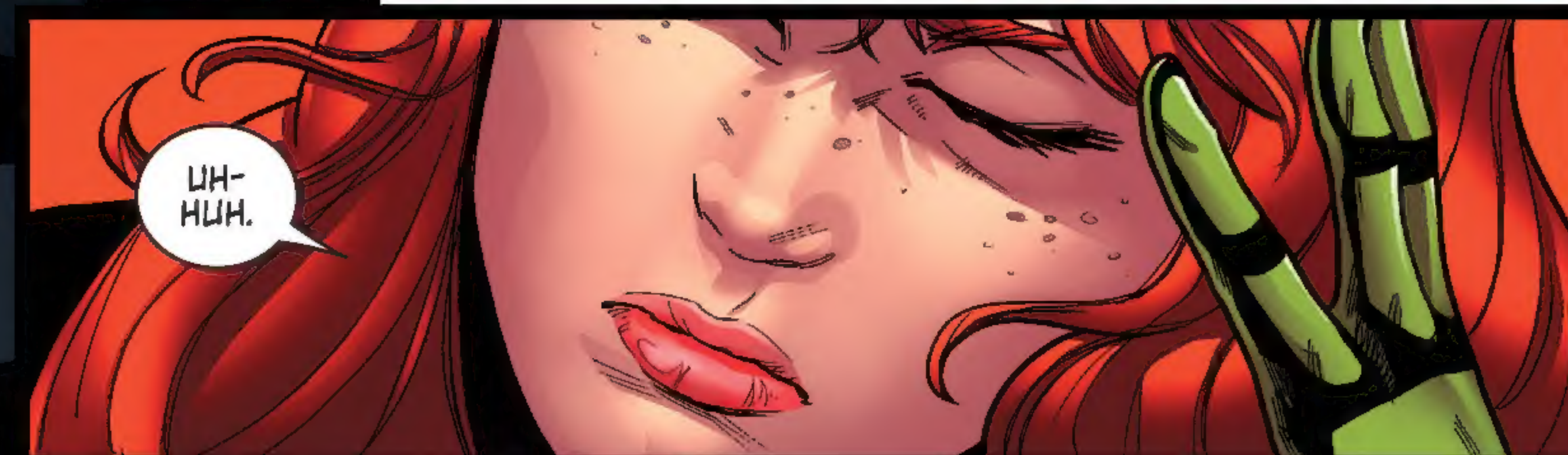
FUN FACT-- I RECENTLY LEARNED I HAVE A NEW POWER SET.

WHEN I FOCUS, I CAN TURN PSYCHIC ENERGY INTO ACTUAL PHYSICAL BOLTS OF ENERGY.

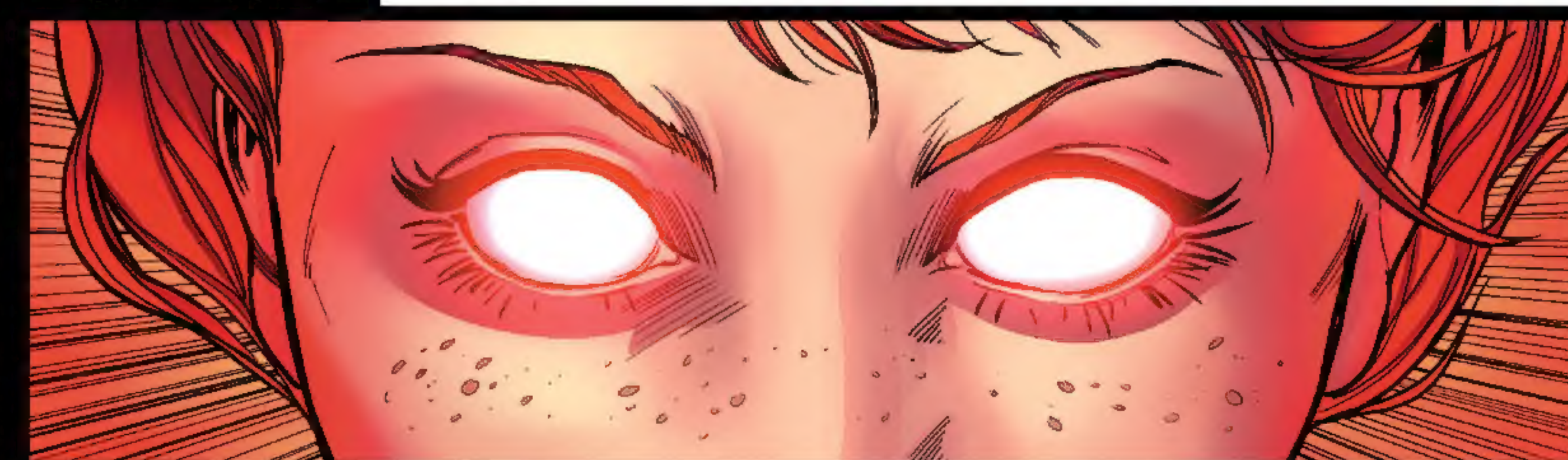
BUT I NEED A LOT OF PSYCHIC ENERGY FOR IT TO REALLY--



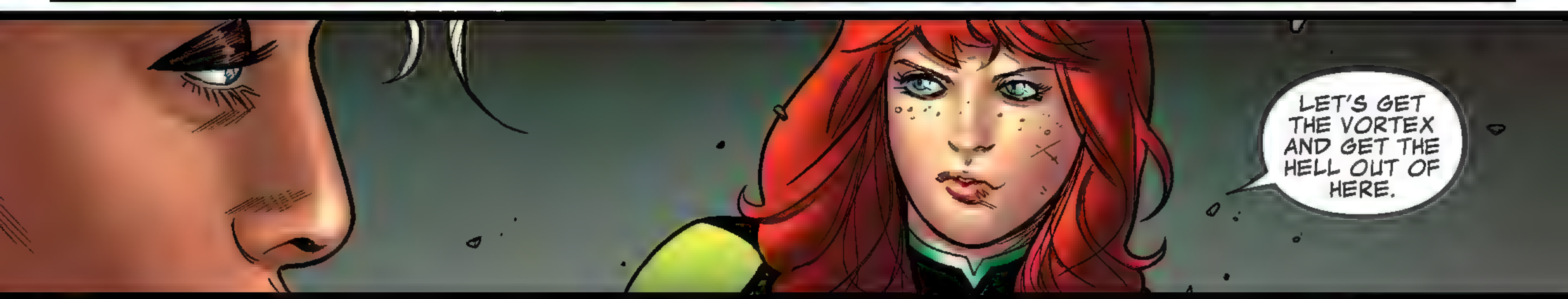
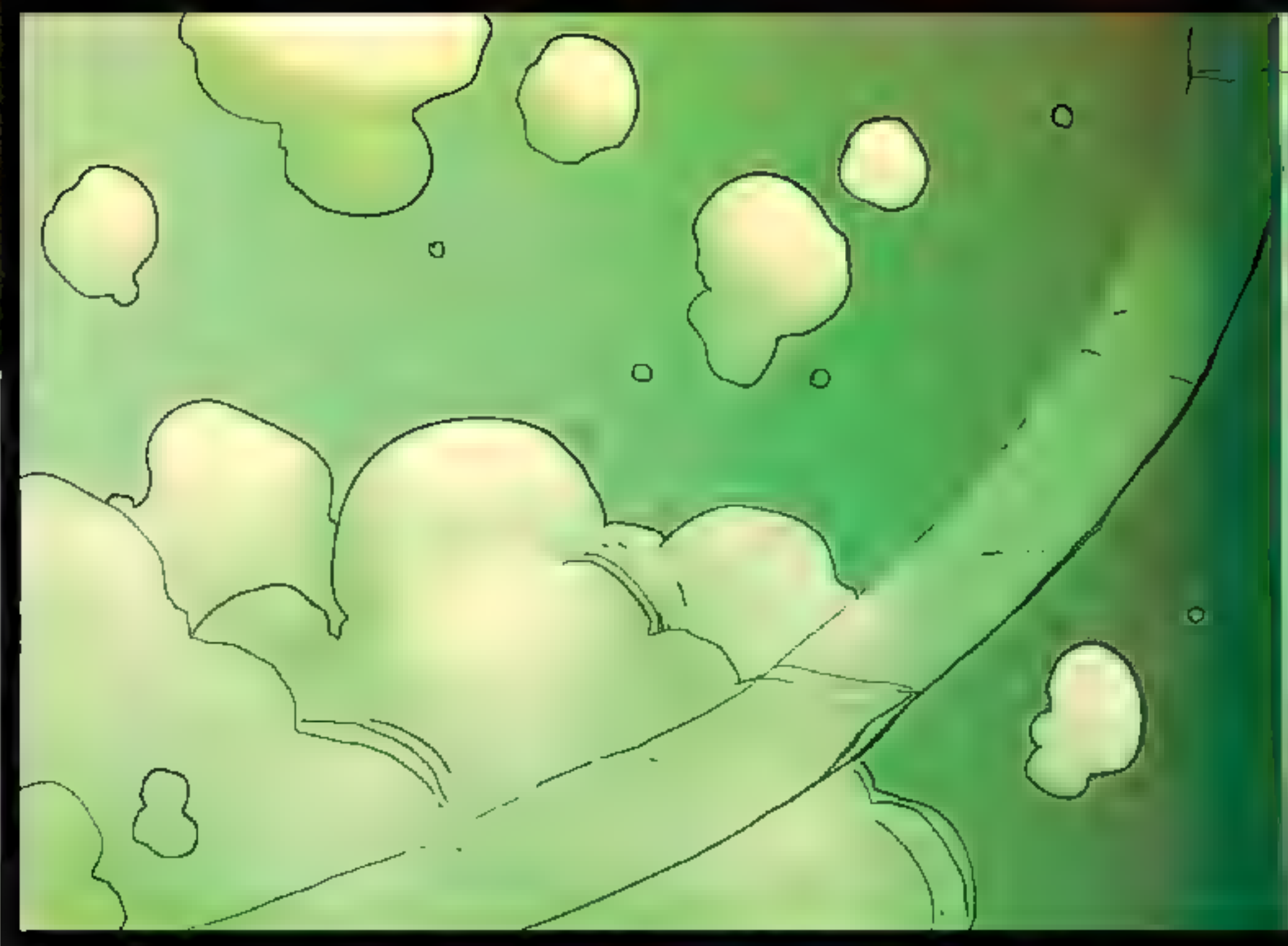
NO...



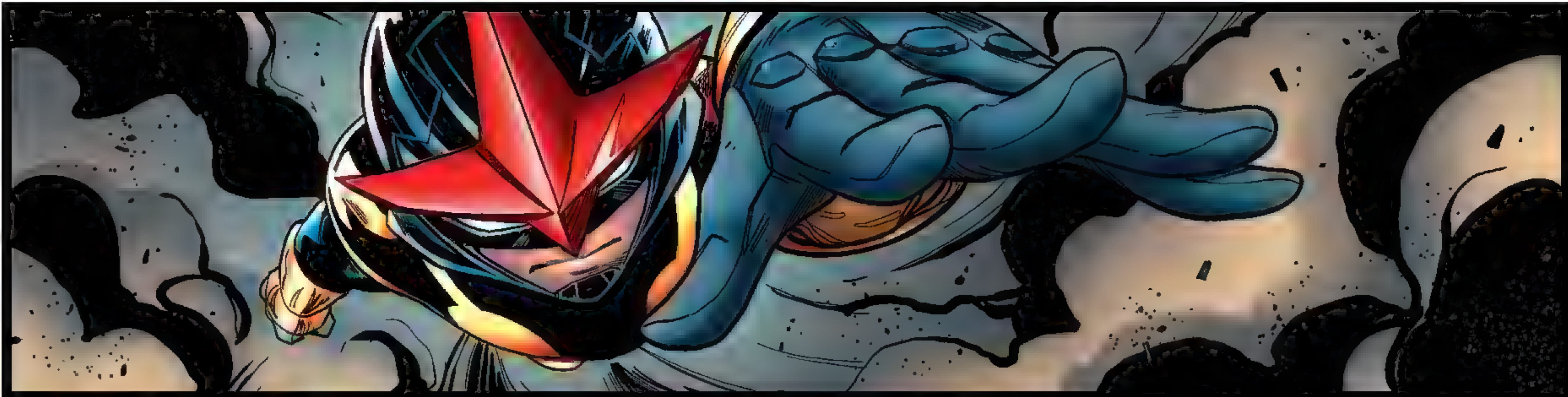
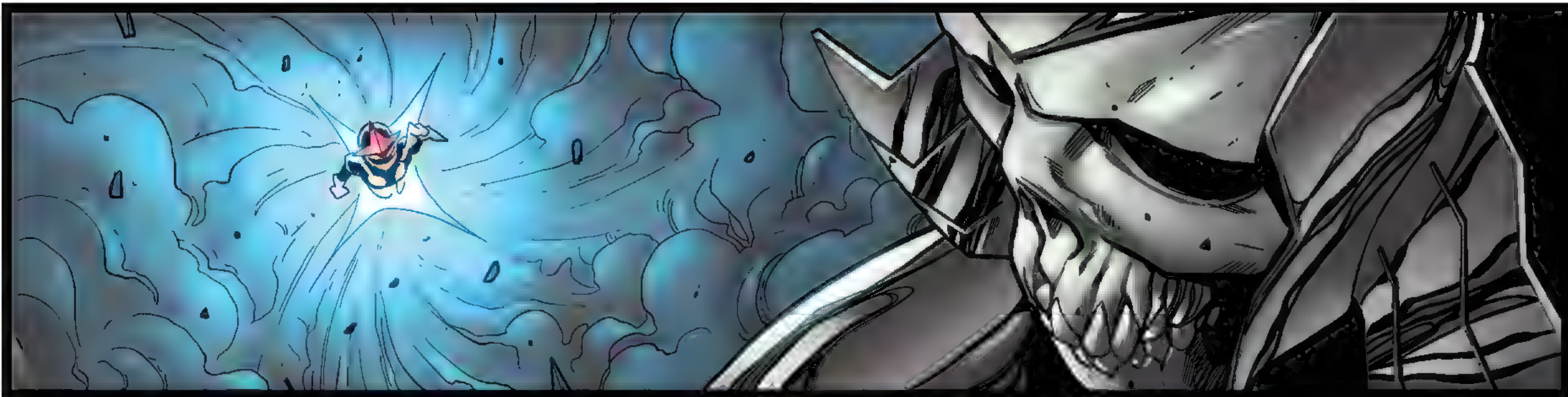
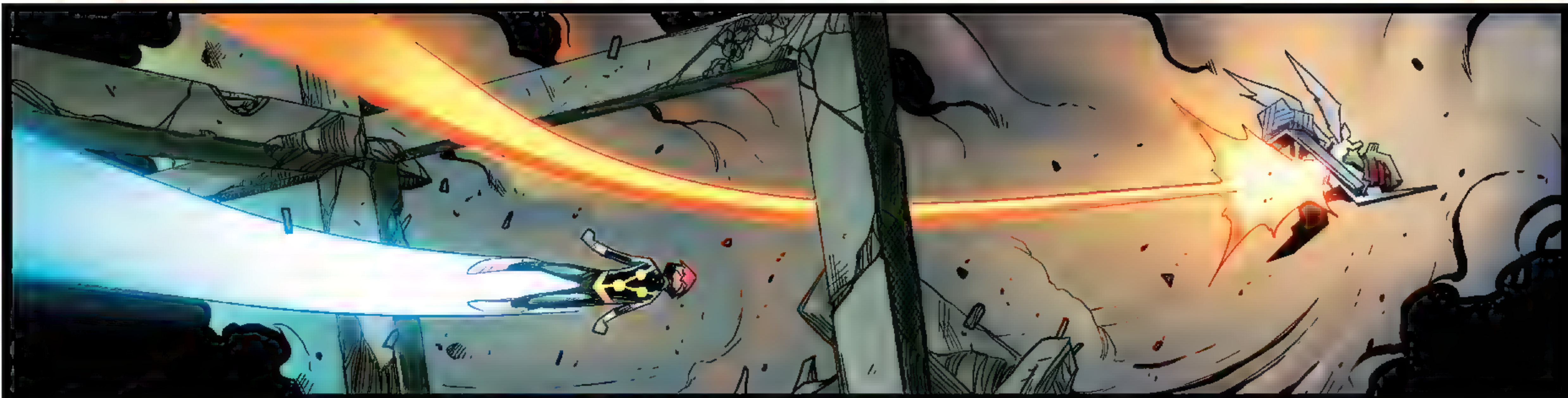
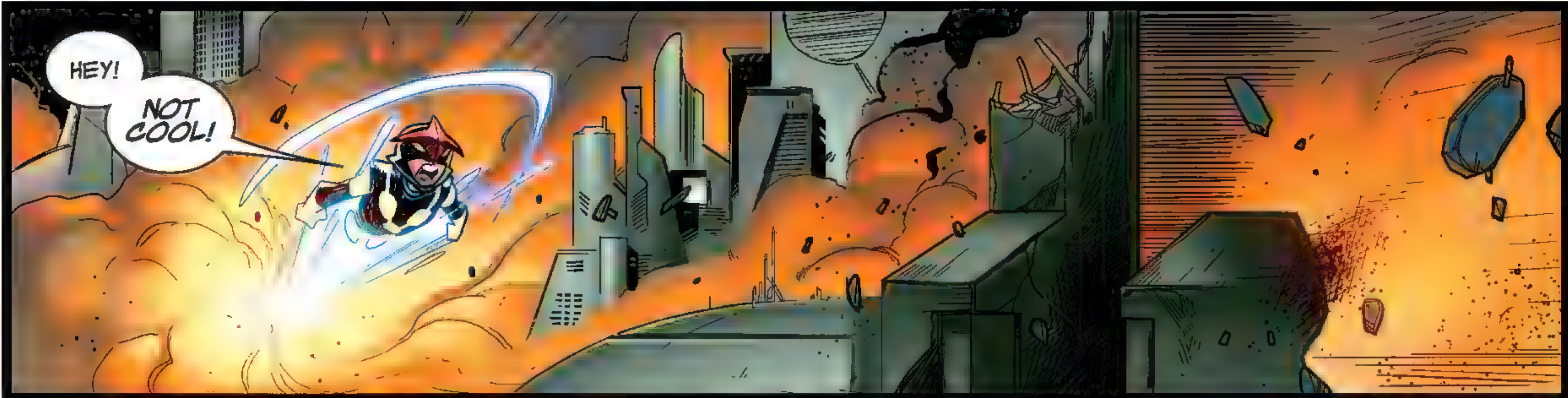
UH-HUH.



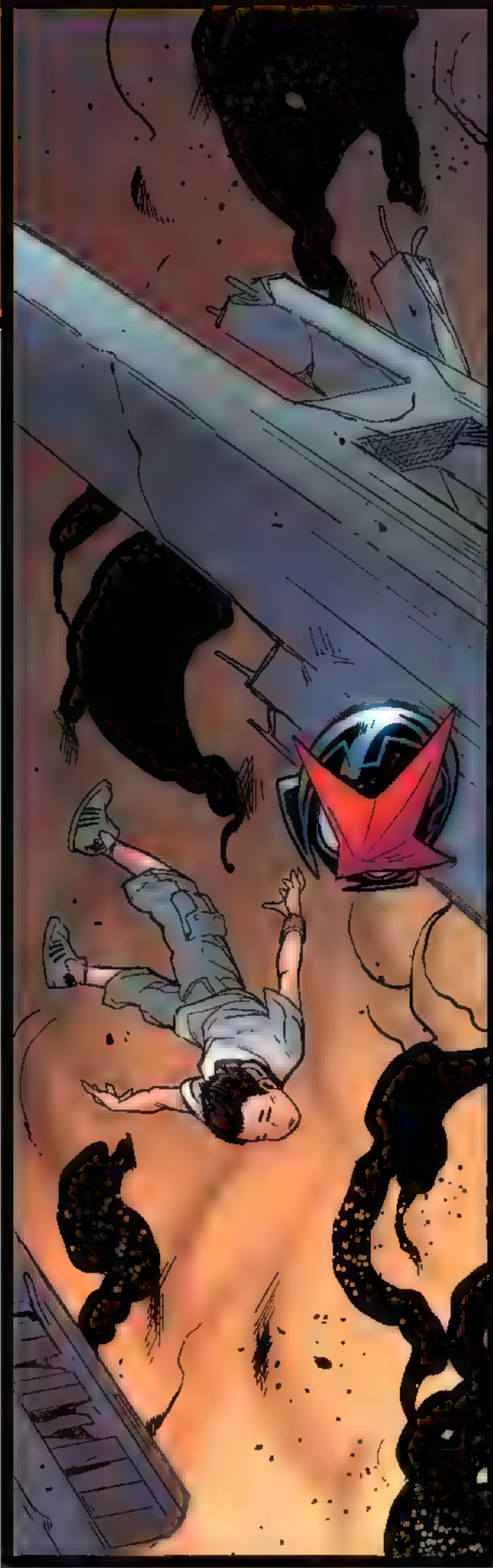
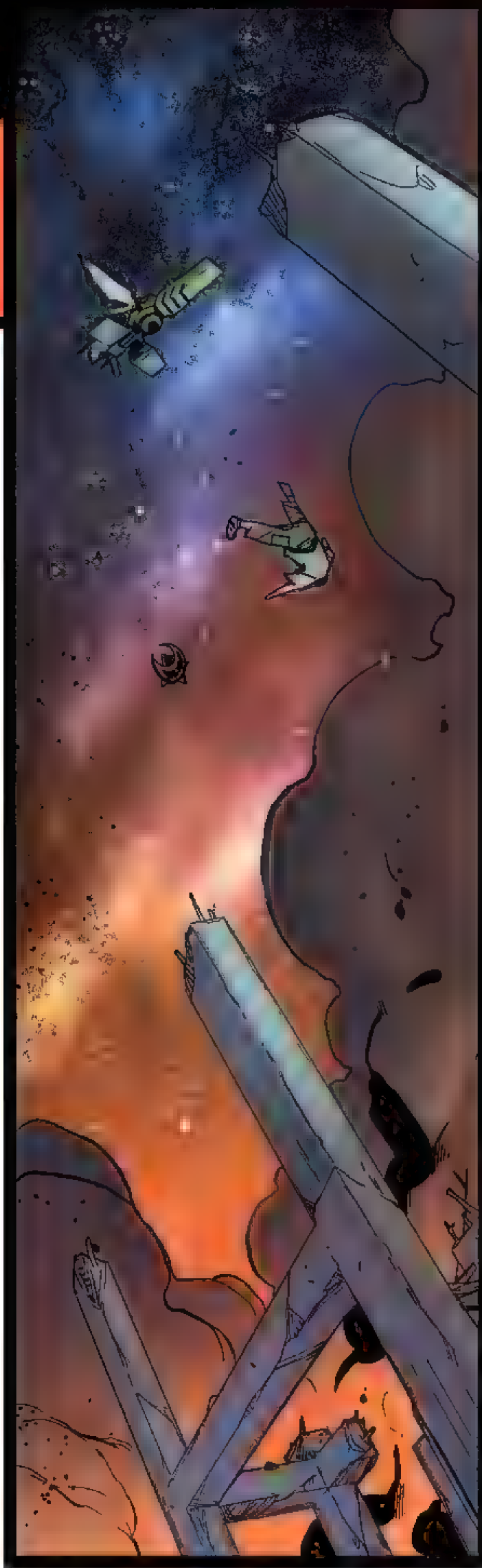














THE FLYING  
FORTRESS OF  
MISTER KNIFE.



ALL  
HAIL THE  
MIGHTY KREE  
EMPIRE.

EVERYONE IN!  
TIME TO GO.

WE DON'T  
HAVE THE  
VORTEX!

NOVA  
HAS IT.



STOP!

STOP  
STOP  
STOP!



GEEZ!

WELL, AT  
LEAST...



OH,  
COME  
ON!





HOLD ON!

GET ON BOARD, MISA.

YOU ARE GOING TO WANT TO SEE THIS!

WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE TO SEE THE LOOK ON HIS BIG, GREEN, SMUG, GELATINOUS FACE RIGHT NOW.

DO NOT FIGHT!

RUN FROM HERE!

SAVE YOURSELVES!

GODDESS!

WHAT ARE THEY DOING TO THE PLANET?

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SOMETHING LIKE THIS BEFORE?

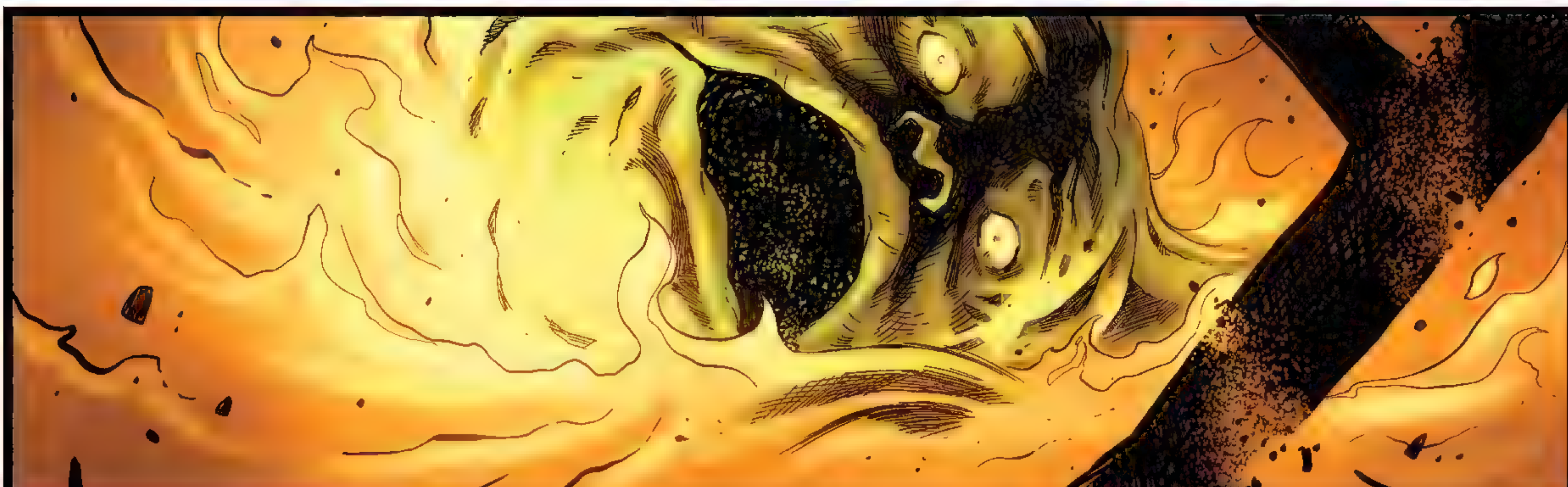
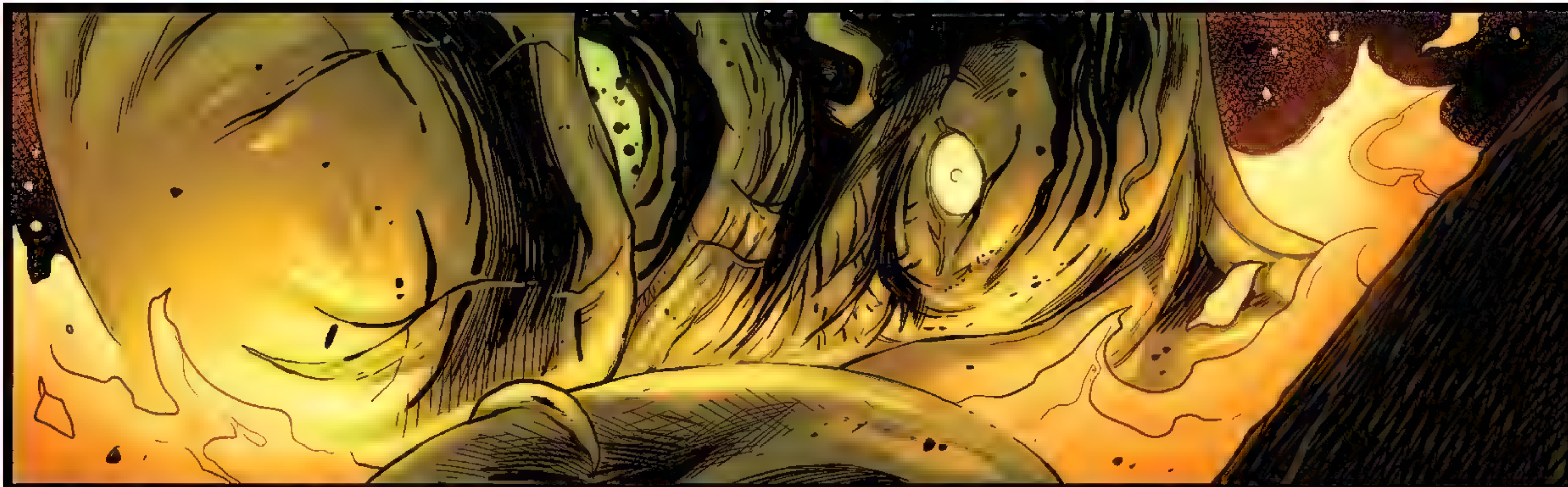
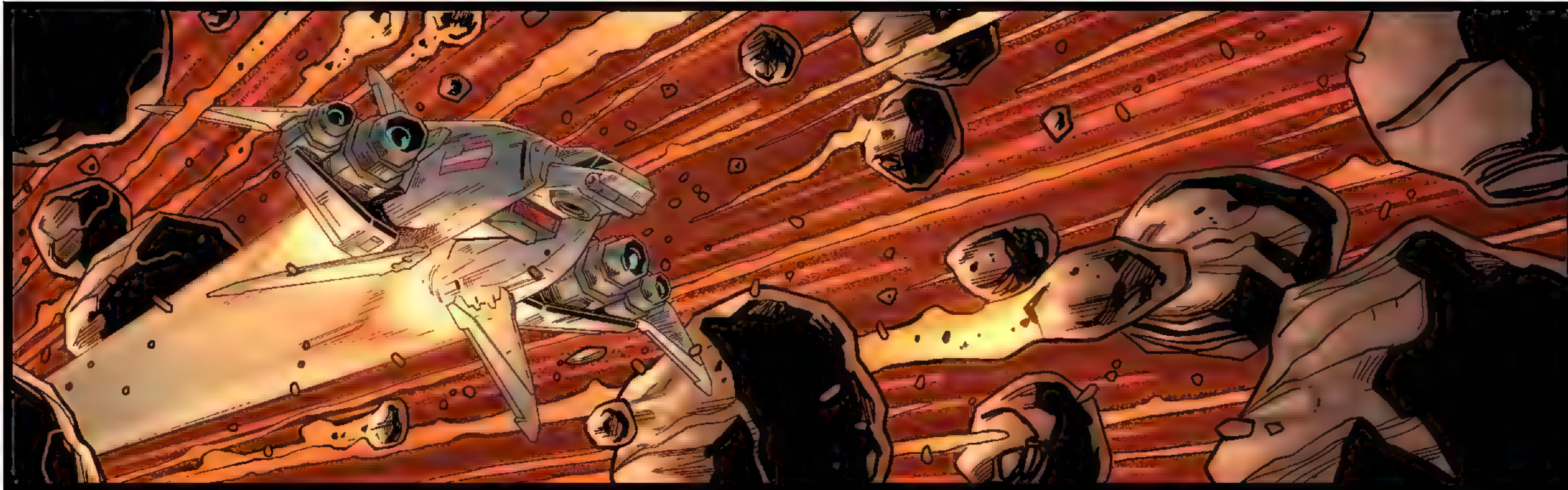
ONCE.



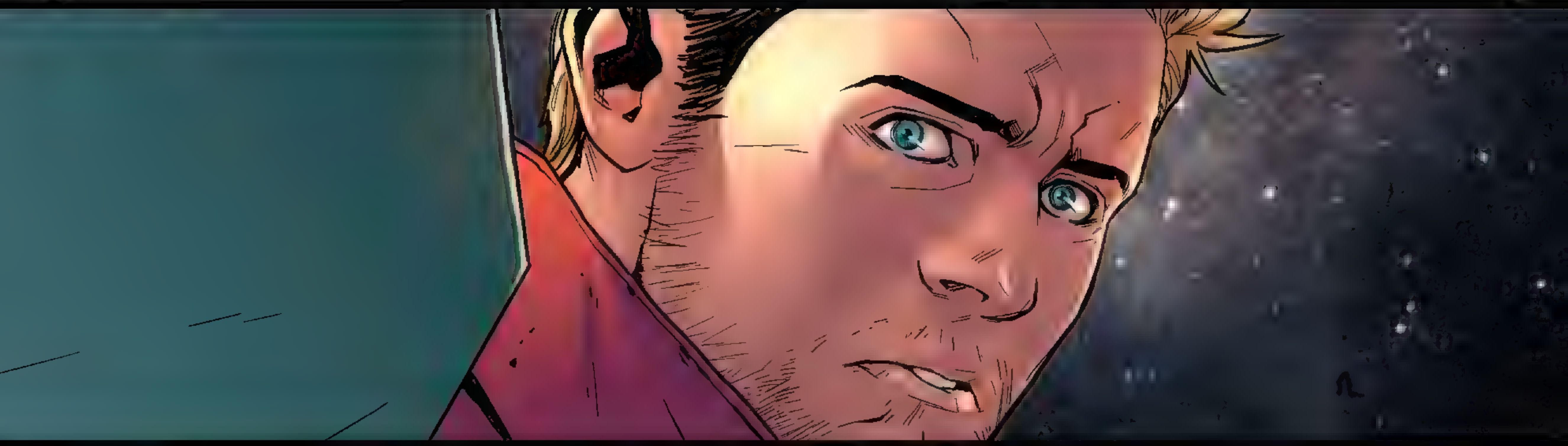




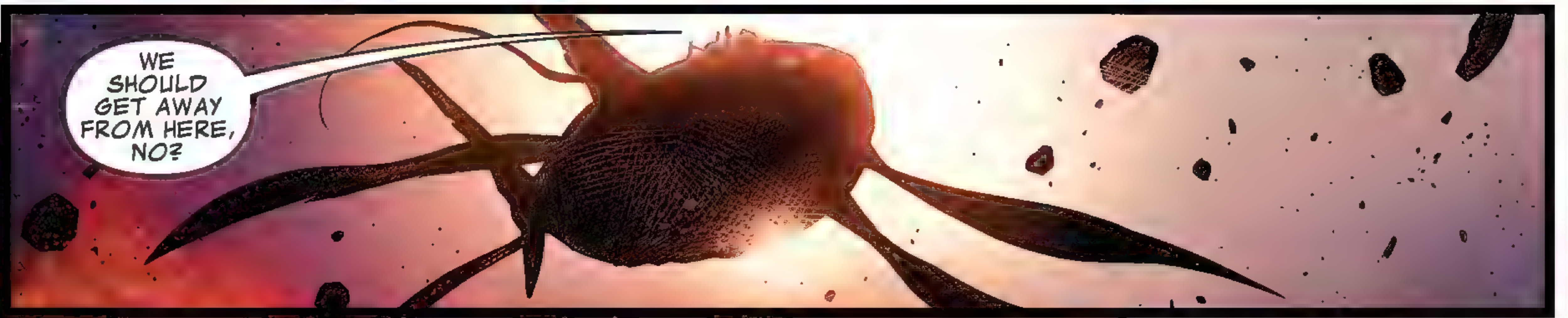












WE SHOULD GET AWAY FROM HERE, NO?

NO, DOON, I WANT TO WATCH THIS.

I WANT TO SAVOR THE MOMENT.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW MUCH CRAP I'VE TAKEN FROM THAT GREEN-HEADED MONSTER.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA.

THIS--THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING, KNIFE.

YES, IT DOES.

THE KREE HAVE HAD A STRANGLEHOLD ON THIS GALAXY FOR AS LONG AS THERE HAS BEEN ONE.

AND THEY ARE PART OF THE REASON I DON'T HAVE MY PLANET ANYMORE.

**BURN, YOU BLUE BASTARDS!**

NOW BRING ME THE VORTEX.



I DON'T HAVE IT.

WHAT?

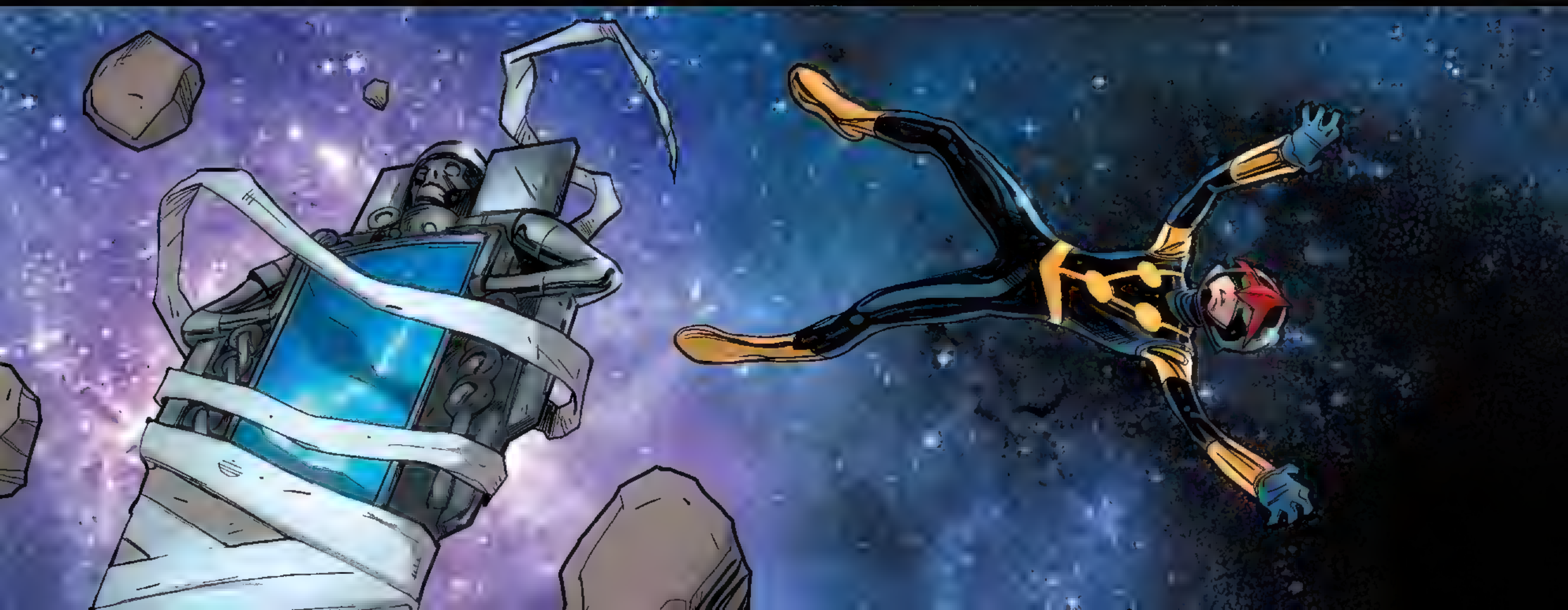
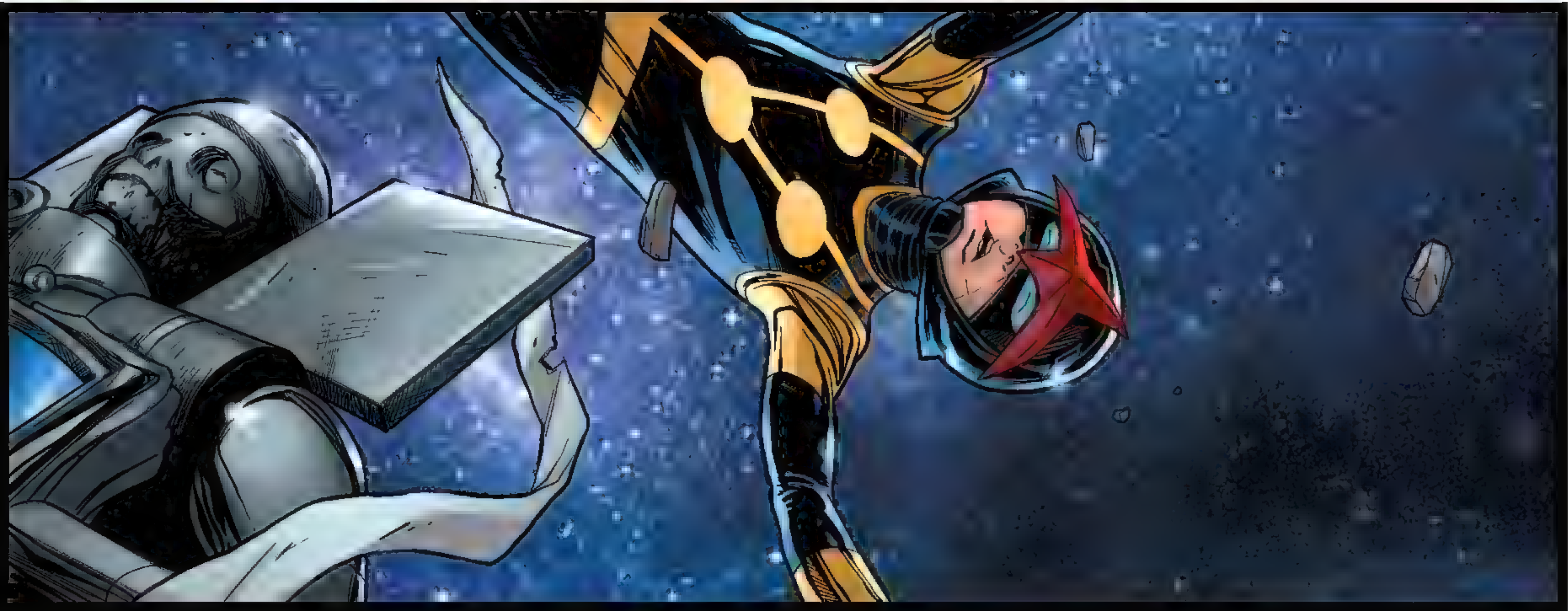
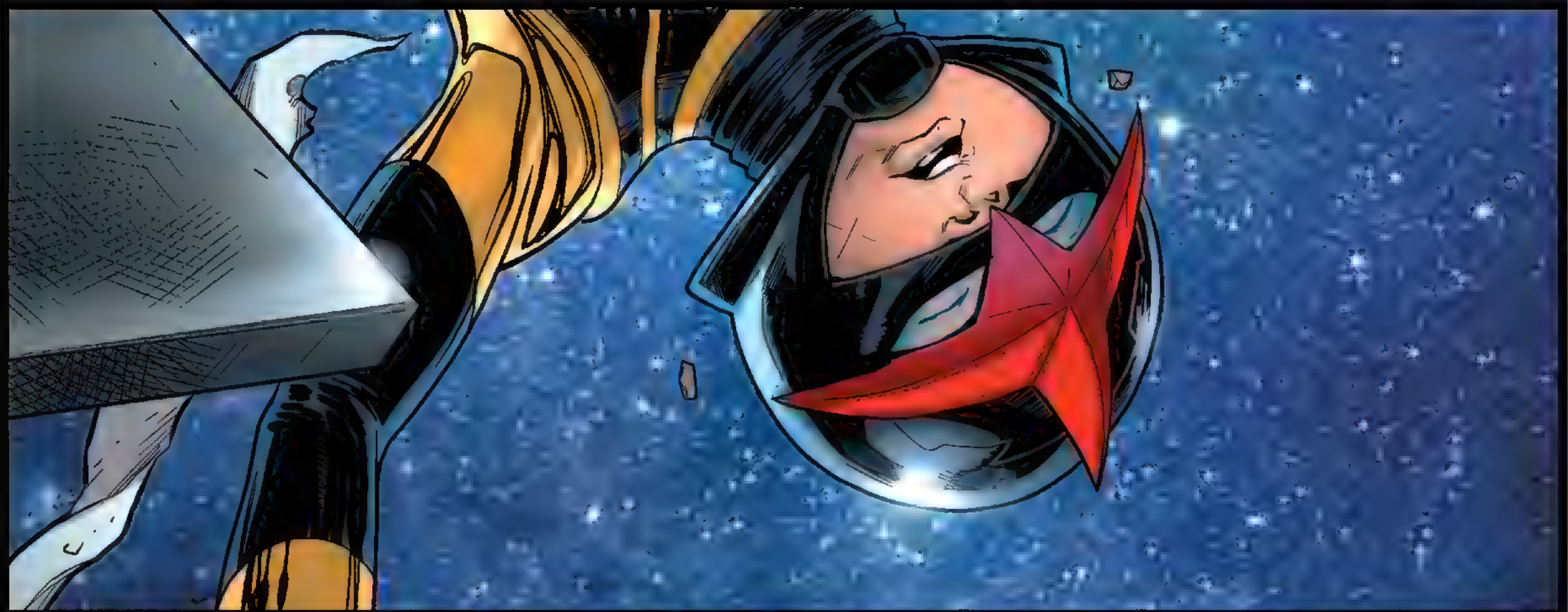
WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU DON'T--?

I HAD IT, BUT--

WHO HAS IT?!









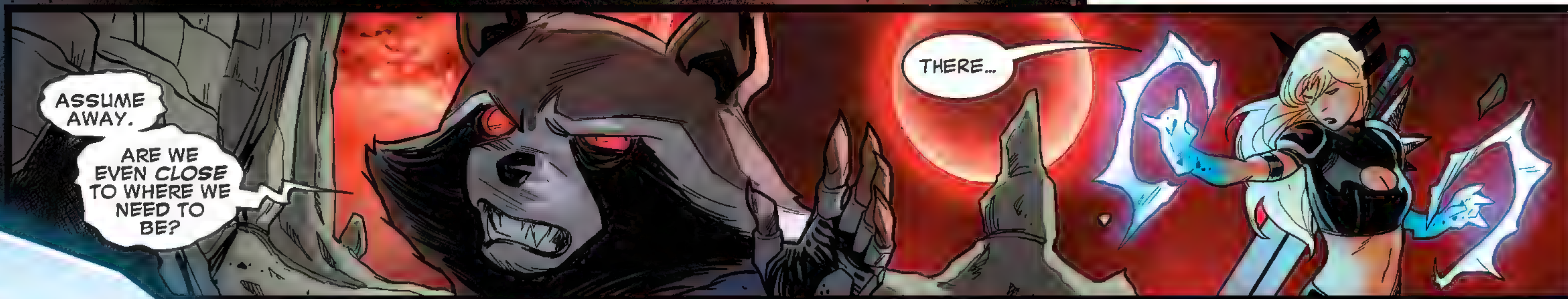


FLARKNARD!

WHAT?

ALL THIS TELEPORTIN' IS MAKING MY GNORDS CRAWL UP INTO MY NORKHOLE, MAGIK.

I ASSUME YOU'RE BEING DISGUSTING, ROCKET.



ASSUME AWAY.

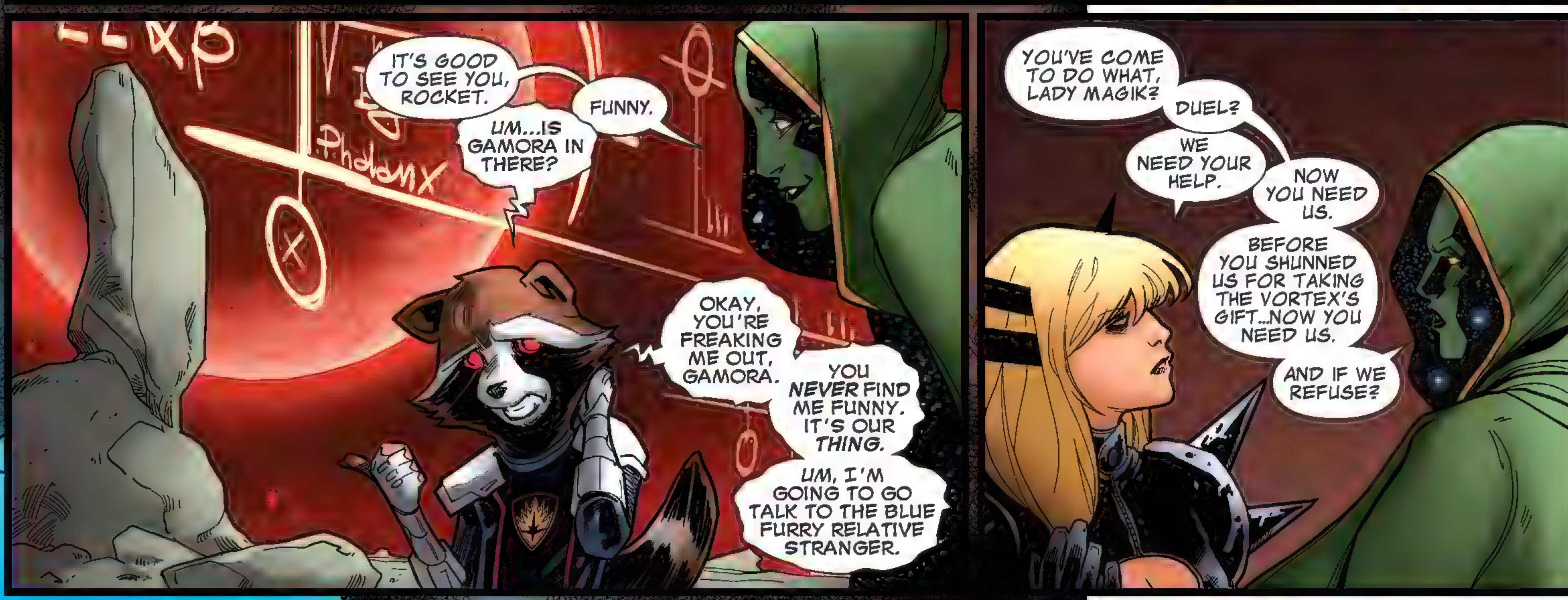
ARE WE EVEN CLOSE TO WHERE WE NEED TO BE?

THERE...



HELLO?

HEY...



IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, ROCKET.

FUNNY.

UM...IS GAMORA IN THERE?

OKAY, YOU'RE FREAKING ME OUT, GAMORA.

YOU NEVER FIND ME FUNNY. IT'S OUR THING.

UM, I'M GOING TO GO TALK TO THE BLUE FURRY RELATIVE STRANGER.

YOU'VE COME TO DO WHAT, LADY MAGIK?

DUEL?

WE NEED YOUR HELP.

NOW YOU NEED US.

BEFORE YOU SHUNNED US FOR TAKING THE VORTEX'S GIFT...NOW YOU NEED US.

AND IF WE REFUSE?



HEY THERE, BLUE EARTHER?

UH, WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU?

I MAY HAVE SINGLE-HANDEDLY DESTROYED TIME AND SPACE.

HUH.

SUCKS TO BE YOU, THEN.



WELL, I'M NOT GOING TO FIGHT YOU.

WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO OFFER?

I'VE LIVED MY ENTIRE LIFE CARRYING AROUND THE BURDEN OF A DARK FORCE INSIDE ME.

MAYBE I CAN HELP YOU MAINTAIN YOURS.



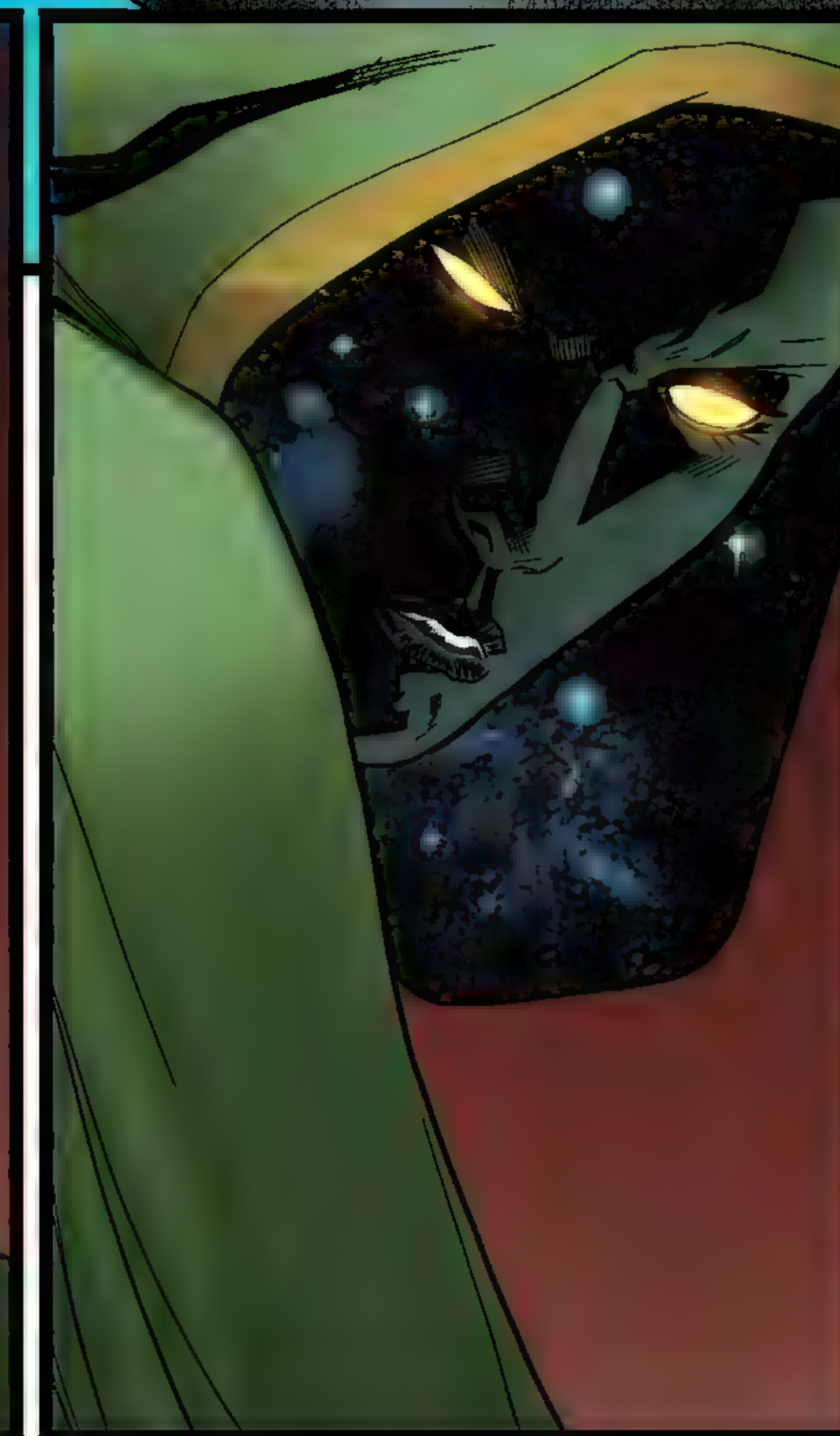
PRESUMPTUOUS.

I'VE SEEN HANK MCCOY CRUMBLE UNDER THE WEIGHT OF HIS OWN DOING BEFORE.

I KNOW WHAT THAT LOOKS LIKE.

YOU'RE OUT HERE INSTEAD OF USING THE POWER TO MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE.

YOU ARE... OVERWHELMED.



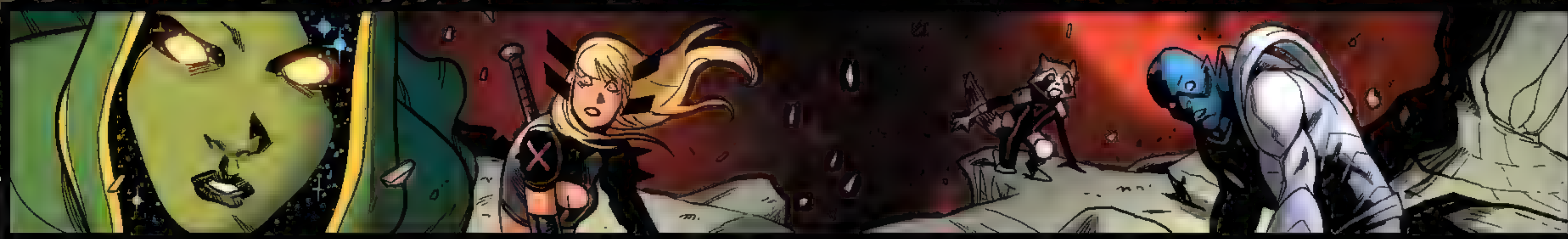
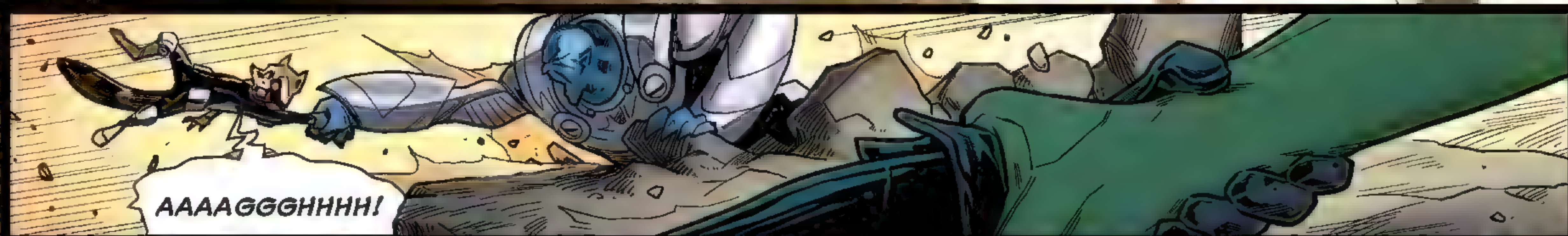
SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED.

WHAT?

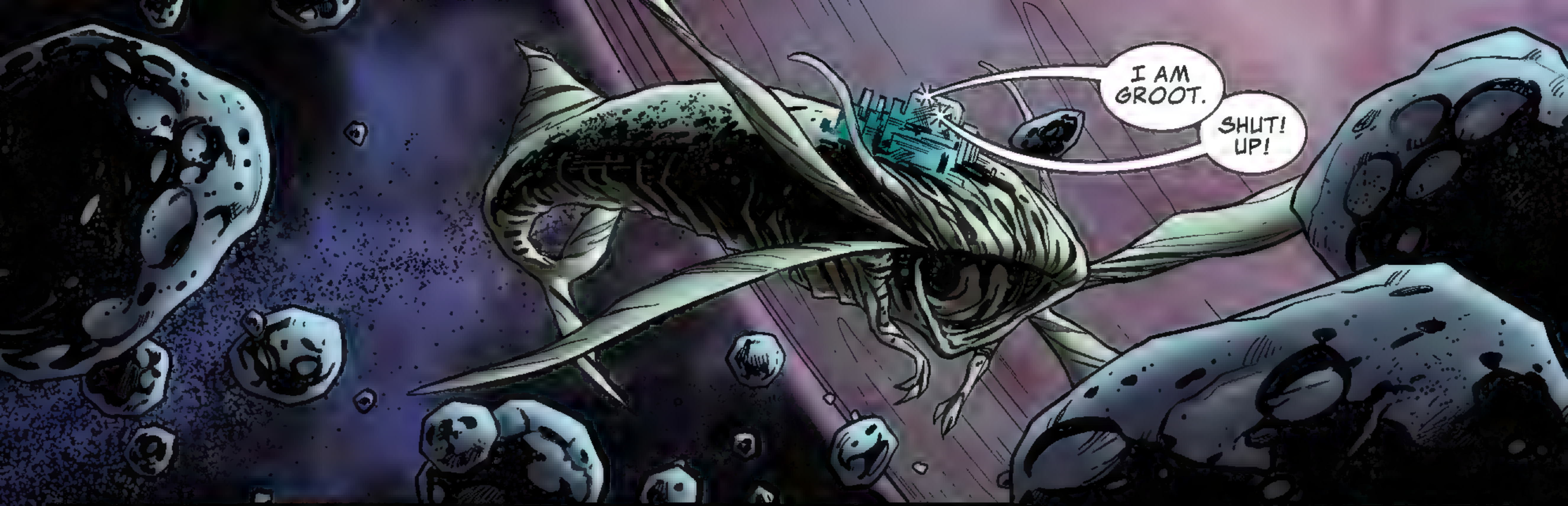


EVERYONE RUN FOR COVER!









I AM GROOT.

SHUT! UP!



I AM GROOT.

THIS IS MY NIGHTMARE.

I AM GROOT.

YOU ARE ANNOYING!

LEAVE HIM ALONE, BOBBY.



THAT'S NOT ANNOYING YOU?

HE'S JUST EXPRESSING HIMSELF.

WE'LL BE GETTING OUT OF HERE SOON ENOUGH.

HOW OPTIMISTIC OF YOU...



...I WONDER WHAT YOU ARE BASING THAT OPTIMISM ON, EXACTLY?



OUR FRIENDS ARE COMING FOR US.

AND THEY ARE GOING TO WIPE THAT SMUG SMIRK RIGHT OFF YOUR SMUG, SMIRKY FACE.



OH, THAT I DO NOT DOUBT.

IT'S THE ONLY REASON YOU'RE STILL ALIVE.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?





I WANT THE  
VORTEX.

AND  
YOUR  
FRIENDS  
HAVE IT.

YOUR  
LITTLE BABY  
NOVA HAS IT.

I AM  
GROOT.



THAT'S RIGHT!  
YOUR LIVES FOR  
THE VORTEX.

THAT'S  
EXACTLY  
RIGHT.



IT'S  
**NOT** GOING  
TO HAPPEN.



OKAY.

HOW  
ABOUT  
THIS?

I JUST BLEW  
UP THE KREE  
HOMEWORLD.

AND YOU  
KNOW WHAT?  
IT WAS FUN.

IT WAS  
CATHARTIC.

IF YOUR  
LITTLE BAND OF  
PIRATES DOESN'T  
HAND OVER THE VORTEX  
I'M GOING TO TURN  
THIS PLACE AROUND  
AND HEAD RIGHT  
TOWARD EARTH.



I SHOULD  
HAVE BLOWN  
THE EARTH UP  
**YEARS** AGO.

IT WOULD  
HAVE SAVED  
ME A LOT OF  
TROUBLE.

IF I DO  
IT NOW THERE  
ARE ENTIRE  
PLANETARY SYSTEMS  
THAT WILL THROW  
ME A PARADE.

SO WHAT  
WILL IT BE,  
EARTH  
CHILD?





"WHAT WILL  
IT BE?"

TO BE CONTINUED IN  
THE BLACK VORTEX CHAPTER 8: **NOVA #28!**



GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN

# THE BLACK VORTEX

CHAPTER 7

FOLLOW THE SAGA OF THE BLACK VORTEX IN  
**NOVA #28**

**ON-SALE  
FEBRUARY**

~~THE BLACK  
VORTEX ALPHA #1~~

~~GUARDIANS OF  
THE GALAXY #24~~

~~LEGENDARY  
STAR-LORD #9~~

~~ALL-NEW  
X-MEN #28~~

**ON-SALE  
MARCH**

~~ALL-NEW  
X-MEN #29~~

~~GUARDIANS  
TEAM-UP #3~~

GUARDIANS OF  
THE GALAXY #25

NOVA #28

LEGENDARY  
STAR-LORD #10

**ON-SALE  
APRIL**

CYCLOPS #12

CAPTAIN  
MARVEL #14

LEGENDARY  
STAR-LORD #11

THE BLACK VORTEX  
OMEGA #1

COVER ART BY ORPHANS CHEEPS



